

manure. Keep this up every season and you will have no more trouble with the bed. The asparagus will come up through any amount of manure. You can begin cutting the second season and from then on the bed will get better every year for a long time and is a permanent affair.—The Fruit Grower.

HALE ON ORCHARDING.

At a recent meeting of fruit growers, J. H. Hale, the noted Connecticut fruit specialist, told the orchardists present that the old cider orchards are passing out of existence and commercial orchards must supplant them. The apple is the all-year-round fruit. He further said in part:

Give the orchard the best soil you have, rolling land preferred. Prepare this land thoroughly and continue thorough tillage. Get good trees. Plan ahead and transplant trees two or three times before setting in permanent place or pay nurserymen for doing it. Head your trees low. Manufacture them to suit your idea. Get them down where you can handle them easily and cheaply. Prune annually and spray often and thoroughly. Thin apples. Good trees overbear. This is the most paying operation of all. Pick two to four times to get all of crop at proper stages of ripeness. We don't pick the whole of any other fruit crop at once, why apples? Don't plant dwarfs, but rather dwarf your standard trees by summer and root pruning if they are over-vigorous. He has thrown such trees into bearing by plowing deep and sub-soiling. Cultivate early and thoroughly until middle of July, then seed to cover crop and let alone. Has no use for mulched trees unless it be an expedient to throw over-vigorous trees into bearing. Mr. Hale has used commercial fertilizers supplemented by cover crops for forty years, and thinks them equal to barnyard manure. Has secured results in color and quantity with potash. Use care in harvesting. If possible put apples in cold storage every night. Communities should unite and build storage plants.

In concluding, Mr. Hale impressed upon the young men the importance of planting orchards and then caring for them. He knew of no more profitable venture, but young men were too impatient and most of the

apple orchards were being planted by old men. There might be a market for a limited quantity of fancy Western apples at a high price, but the bulk used by classes of moderate means would be the apples produced near home. Look about you. Most golden opportunities are found near home if we can only see them.

A FAIR EXCHANGE.

"No, I don't believe in expensive practical jokes," said a San Francisco business man, "except by way of retaliation.

"Now last year I received a telegram from a friend who was traveling in Italy. It came collect and cost me seven dollars; and when I opened it, all I read was, 'Thank you, I am well.'

"Then I sallied forth and sought me out a cobblestone—a nice, large cobblestone weighing about eleven pounds. And I wrapped it in excelsior, pink cotton and white paper, and boxed it up in a handsome box; and I sent it by express, collect, to my facetious friend far across the bounding billows.

"And when he had paid his little fifteen dollars, and had opened the box in St. Petersburg, if I remember rightly, he found in addition to the precious contents a note from me that explained: 'This is the load that rolled off my heart on receipt of the news of your good health.'"

BEDBUGS' HOURS OF FEEDING

The bedbug has been scientifically investigated by the department of agriculture, and the reassuring information is given that an adult bedbug feeds only once in from 36 to 40 hours.

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FOUND DEAD!



The first of last month a fine specimen of humanity, Arvid Erickson, 28 years old, was found dead on the track of the Salt Lake Route between Stockton and Tooele stations. There was not a mark of violence upon him, so it was decided he died a natural death. In January, 1905, he covered his cash value with a thousand dollar policy in the Penn Mutual Life. The doctor said he was as fine a specimen of humanity as he ever examined. In January, 1906, he felt like he had made a mistake by taking the policy. Said he could use all the money he could make and more too; the doctor said he was too healthy to die, so he refused to pay the premium. Now his widow is left suddenly to pay what he left unpaid and to support the family all alone.

Some women do not believe in insurance. Widows, however, all do. If interested write

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